



## Leader's Guide

Week of March 12

### The Big Idea

The early church was a peculiar people: they had uncommon unity. And so must we.

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### Getting Started

1. What is the best church experience you've ever had? Try to think of a specific moment or period of time rather than just a good church you've attended.  
**\*Leader's Note:** If only all our church experiences

could be like this!

2. Why aren't church experiences as good as that?  
**\*Leader's Note:** Lots of possible answers here, the main thing that might be emphasized is sin gets in the way. People are selfish rather than selfless, some sin or other issue causes conflict and people are driven apart rather than together.
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### Digging In

1. Read **Acts 2:42**. Who are "they" and what did they do?  
**\*Leader's Note:** This is the group of about 3,000 referred to in **verse 41**. The answer to what they did was in the text: they devoted themselves to two things 1) Apostle's Teaching and 2) Fellowship (defined as a. breaking bread and b. prayers).
2. Read **Acts 2:43**. What does it mean that "awe came upon every soul?" Have you ever felt such "awe?" When? How might you feel it again?  
**\*Leader's Note:** It's helpful to define this "awe" as a real sense of the Lord's presence. An experiential knowledge in one's core that the Lord is near and working through a situation.

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3. Read **Acts 2:44-45**. The early Believers gave freely, voluntarily, to anyone who had need. How does this contrast with SGC or other churches you've experienced?

**\*Leader's Note:** Contrast should be obvious. This is perhaps the biggest issue the North American church faces. Try not to "bash" other Christians, but instead to be self-reflective.

4. Finally, read **Acts 2:46-47**. What were the results of these Believers' way of life?  
**\*Leader's Note:** Gratitude, joy, multiplication, favor with their neighbors, God's clear and present blessing.
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## Looking Around

1. From what source do you primarily draw Christian community?  
**\*Leader's Note:** For many, this will primarily be your Life Group. This is a good opportunity to discuss how much authentic community is impossible by just showing up on Sunday mornings. Life together and 'meeting in homes' is crucial.
2. Would you characterize your Christian community as "devoted" to Biblical teaching and prayer? Why

(not)?

3. What would it look like to have the kind of selfless, sacrificial attitude that these early Believers had?
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## Pray

Pray for unity for your Life Group, for SGC, and for the Church worldwide. Read Jesus' High Priestly prayer (**John 17**) and focus on Jesus' passion for the unity of His Church.